

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 03597 020406Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25

STR-08 RSR-01 /154 W

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R 020345Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1169

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3597

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PFOR, AS, SF

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION PRESIDENT PREDICTS ECONOMIC
SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WITHIN THREE MONTHS

1. SPEAKING TO PRESS JULY 1 ON VARIETY OF SUBJECTS FOLLOWING
HIS RECENT RETURN FROM ILO CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, AUSTRALIAN
COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS PRESIDENT, R.J. HAWKE, PREDICTED THAT
TRADE UNIONS AROUND THE WORLD WOULD IMPOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS
AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IN PROTEST AGAINST APARTHEID. HAWKE SAID THE
APPLICATIONS OF SANCTIONS WOULD FOLLOW A DECISION TAKEN AT A
MEETING OF UNION AND UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
RECENT ILO CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, WHICH HE ATTENDED. THE PURPOSE
OF THE BANS WOULD BE TO FORCE SOUTH AFRICA TO DROP ITS
APARTHEID POLICY. HE ADDED THAT THE DECISION IS INTENDED TO
BRING THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO ITS KNEES QTE WHERE IT
BELONGED. END QTE.

2. COMMENT: HAWKE'S COMMENTS REFLECT SAME PENCHANT FOR
EXTRAVAGANT LANGUAGE WHICH HE EXHIBITED IN COMMENTING ON U.S.

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BOMBING OF HANOI/HAIPHONG IN DECEMBER, AND, CURRENTLY, ON

FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING IN PACIFIC.

3. IN RECENT YEARS, AUSTRALIA HAS RUN A HEAVY BILATERAL TRADE
SURPLUS (EXPORTS ABOUT FOUR TIMES IMPORTS) WITH SOUTH AFRICA,

A MAJOR MARKET FOR AUSTRALIAN VEHICLES AND OTHER MANUFACTURED
PRODUCTS. AN EMBARGO WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY HURT AUSTRALIAN TRADE
MORE THAN THAT OF SOUTH AFRICA.

GREEN

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